

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 06752 021348Z

43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PRS-01 USIA-06 A-01 OPR-02 SY-05 PER-01

NEAE-00 /056 W

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P 021303Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1411

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BEIRUT 6752

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, PROP, LE, US

SUBJECT: CBS TELEVISION INTEREST IN EMBASSY LIFE

1. CBS TELEVISION CORRESPONDENT DOUGLAS TUNNELL HAS APPROACHED EMBASSY TO DO "HUMAN INTEREST" STORY ON LIFE NOWADAYS AT U.S. EMBASSY BEIRUT. HE WOULD DO FILM CLIPS OF SNACK BAR, NEWLY OPENED AMERICAN DINING ROOM, WORKING AND LIVING CONDITIONS, ETC. WE WOULD, OF COURSE, PROTECT SENSITIVE ASPECTS OF EMBASSY OPERATIONS, SUCH AS STAFFING PATTERN, AND WE ARE CONFIDENT CBS WILL CREATE NO PROBLEMS IN THIS RESPECT. UNLIKE JOURNALISTS IN WASHINGTON, TUNNELL (WHO HAA BEEN IN BEIRUT OVER ONE YEAR) AND OTHERS HERE UNDERSTAND EXTRAORDINARY CONDITIONS IN WEST BEIRUT.

2. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH CBS PROJECT MIGHT HELP DISPEL SOME GROSS MISUNDERSTANDINGS DISPLAYED BY U.S. PRESS IN DAILY DEPT BRIEFINGS, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE UNWISE FROM LOCAL POINT OF VIEW TO CALL ATTENTION TO EMBASSY OPERATIONS AT THIS TIME. IF DEPT CONCURS, WE PLAN TELL TUNNELL THAT WE ARE UNABLE TO AGREE TO HIS REQUEST FOR THE TIME BEING.
HUNT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EMBASSIES, TELEVISION BROADCASTING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BEIRUT06752
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760297-0366
From: BEIRUT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760897/aaaadhmn.tel
Line Count: 51
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 1
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 JUN 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <20 OCT 2004 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CBS TELEVISION INTEREST IN EMBASSY LIFE
TAGS: SOPN, PROP, LE, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006